



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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Linda McCulloch
Superintendent

MEMORANDUM

February 4, 2008

To: Montana Educational Leaders

From: Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation

Subject: Call for Nominations for Model Full-Time Kindergarten Curriculum Project

The Office of Public Instruction (OPI) is seeking nominations for participants in the writing of a model curriculum for Full-Time Kindergarten.

Members of the team can expect to meet three times between March and June 2008, participate in teleconferences and correspond electronically. The three work sessions will convene on Friday and conclude on Sunday morning in Helena.

Team members are selected from nominations by professional education organizations and will meet the following criteria: 1) teachers of pre-school through third grade; 2) higher education faculty; 3) geographic distribution; 4) large/small district representation; 5) cultural diversity and special populations; and 6) at least one administrator.

The purpose of this Full-Time Kindergarten model curriculum process is to assure Montana citizens that its public schools are providing all children of Montana with challenging educational opportunities, which includes full-time kindergarten. The OPI is charged with the responsibility of facilitating this process.

Please return these nomination forms by Friday, February 15, 2008, for any individuals your organization wishes to identify as a qualified and interested participant in the important process. The nomination form is found at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pub/pdf/accred/ftk/08FTKNomForm.pdf>

The nomination form can be mailed, e-mailed or faxed to the Office of Public Instruction, ATTN: Linda Almas, PO Box 202501, Helena, MT 59620-2501. Linda can be reached by telephone at (406) 444-4431 or by e-mail at lalmas@mt.gov or by fax at (406) 444-1373; the OPI toll free number is 1-888-231-9393 ext. 3583.

Thank you for your assistance with this important selection process.

Enclosure

"It is the mission of the Office of Public Instruction to improve teaching and learning through communication, collaboration, advocacy, and accountability to those we serve."

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MODEL FULL-TIME KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM TEAM NOMINATION FORM

Candidate's Name _____

Which group best reflects the candidate's profile? (Check all that apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Rural District Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Large District Teacher
<input type="checkbox"/> Rural District Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/> Large District Administrator
<input type="checkbox"/> Kindergarten Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum Director
<input type="checkbox"/> First Grade Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-School Teacher
<input type="checkbox"/> Second/Third Grade Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Faculty –Early Childhood/Primary

Present or Former Employer _____

Work Telephone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Mailing Address _____ Home/Cell Telephone _____

Candidate Assessment Questionnaire

✓ Please rate the candidate in the following areas by checking the appropriate level for each skill identified:

Skills Needed to be an Effective Team Member	3 = Strong Skills; Extensive experience in this area.	2 = Moderate Skills; Some experience in this area.	1 = Novice; Limited experience in this area.
Professional Judgment			
Organizational Skills			
Written Communication Skills			
Working with Diverse Groups			
Working with Parents/Community			
Interpersonal Skills			
Understanding of the Early Learner's Cognitive and Affective Development			
Understanding of Current Research for Full-time Kindergarten			

Primary reason for nominating this candidate.

Selection Process -- A selection committee will review nominations and select participating members. Members will be notified by February 22, 2008. The committee will base the selections on the nominee's best fit to balance urban/rural, skills/experience, and geographic and cultural representation.

Nominating Group (e.g., Helena School District) _____

Your Name /Title _____ Telephone _____

Deadline: February 15, 2008

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